Medium Capacity Long Range Aircrafts

443. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India and Indian Airlines have decided to appoint three committees to consider the question that Air India should buy the *medium capacity* long range aircrafts in the light of the recommendations of Sahul Committee;

(b) if so, the details of the three comittees set up;

(c) the issue that each committee will sonsider; and

(d) the time by which these three Committees will submit their reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Mid Air Collision

444. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of incidents of mid-air collision occurred during the year 1996 and 1997 till date, date-wise;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted or is being conducted in each such case by the Government;

(c) if so, the findings thereof, accident-wise;

(d) the details of progress made in the modernisation of air traffic control services at Delhi airport;

(e) whether the Government propose to construct two separate corridors for incoming and outgoing flights at the airport to avoid the recurrence of such accidents; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) There was no mid-air collision on 12th November, 1996 during the said period.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The inquiry has been conducted by Justice R.C.Lahoti of Delhi High Court. The Court of Inquiry has since submitted its report which is under examination of the Government.

(d) All civil and electrical works and installation of sub-systems at Delhi airport for modernising the air traffic control services have been completed. The Site Acceptance Test of all sub-systems has been conducted. System Site Acceptance Test (SSAT) has been carried out in May, 1997. Efforts are on for commissioning the system by 31st Janaury, 1998.

(e) Yes,Sir.

(f) Two corridors for ATS routes G-452 from Delhi to Karachi, A-466 Delhi to Lahore, A-474 Delhi to Bombay have already been bifurcated for incoming and outgoing flights. Separate corridor for route R-460 from Delhi to Calcutta will be undertaken shortly with Air Hqrs., to release the airspace for bifurcation of ATS route W-19/20 from Delhi to Madras.

[English]

Loss of Luggage

445. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the toal number of cases reported regarding loss of luggage/valuables of the air passengers after landing at the Calicut Airport during the last two years;

(b) the action taken in each case; and

(c) the number of such cases settled so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) 22 cases of loss of luggage have been reported at Calicut airport during the period 1.10.95 to 31.10.97. The following action is taken by the airline as soon as the loss of baggage is reported :

(i) Passengers' irregularity report is issued.

(ii) All India tracer messages are immediately sent.

(iii) Baggage is delivered to the passenger on its retrieval.

(iv) Settlement action is taken in case baggage is not located .

(c) Out of 22 cases reported, claims were received in respect of 16 cases, out of which, 8 cases have been settled.

Increase in Air Fares

446. SHRI MADAN PATIL :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines have also started increasing fares and freight from the month of October, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the fares increased sector-wise alongwith the date of increase;